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1	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
2	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
3	Case No. 23-10063-shl
4	x
5	In the Matter of:
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7	GENESIS GLOBAL HOLDCO, LLC,
8	
9	Debtor.
10	x
11	United States Bankruptcy Court
12	300 Quarropas Street, Room 248
13	White Plains, NY 10601
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15	August 2, 2023
16	10:11 AM
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20	
21	BEFORE:
22	HON SEAN LANE
23	U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE
24	
25	ECRO: ALIANNA PERSAUD

Page 2 1 Doc. #565 Notice of Agenda 2 3 HEARING re Status Conference Re: Doc. #279 Order Appointing 4 Mediator 5 6 HEARING re Discovery Conference Re: Doc. #530 Debtor's First 7 Omnibus Objection (Substantive) to Claim Nos. 523, 526, 527 Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 502 and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 (no 8 9 Liability) (REDACTED) 10 11 Doc. #562 Letter to Judge Lane Re: Discovery Conference on 12 3AC Claim Objection Filed on Behalf of Genesis Global 13 Holdco, LLC 14 15 Doc. #563 Letter to Judge Lane Re: Disciplinary Conference 16 on 3AC Claim Objection Filed on Behalf of Foreign 17 Representatives of Three Arrows Capital, Ltd. (in 18 liquidation) 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 Transcribed by: Sonya Ledanski Hyde

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Page 10 1 PROCEEDINGS 2 THE COURT: Good morning, this is Judge Sean Lane in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern 3 District of New York. Good morning to you all, and we're 4 here for a 10:00 calendar, although a shortened calendar, in 5 6 Genesis Global Holdco, a Chapter 11 case. And we'll start 7 today, as we always do with appearances. So, let me get 8 appearances from the Debtors. 9 MR. O'NEAL: Good morning, Your Honor, Sean O'Neal 10 and Luke Barefoot, and Jane Vanlare of Cleary Gottlieb Steen 11 and Hamilton on behalf of the Debtors. 12 THE COURT: All right, good morning. 13 MR. O'NEAL: Good morning. 14 THE COURT: And on behalf of the Official 15 Committee. 16 Oh, you're on mute. Sorry to --17 MR. ABELSON: Your Honor? 18 THE COURT: Yep, I got you. 19 MR. ABELSON: (Indiscernible) what do you want --20 well -- yeah, we'll Mr. Shore is trying to work out the technical -- technological issues. Phil Abelston, White 21 22 Case on behalf of the Committee, joined today by my colleagues Christopher Shore, and Colin West. 23 24 THE COURT: All right. I'm confident he will get 25 there, and I can see him on the screen, so I know he's here.

Page 11 1 And on behalf of the Ad Hoc Group? 2 MR. ROSEN: Thank you very much, Your Honor, Brian 3 Rosen, and Jordan Sazant, Proskauer Rose, on behalf of the Ad Hoc Group. 4 5 THE COURT: All right, good morning. On behalf of 6 Gemini Trust Company? 7 MR. FRELINGHUYSEN: Good morning, Your Honor, 8 thank you very much. Anson Frelinghuysen, Hughes Hubbard, 9 and Reed, for Gemini Trust Company. 10 THE COURT: All right, good morning. On behalf of 11 the FTX debtors? 12 MR. ABELSON: I don't think they're on, Your 13 Honor. 14 THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much. 15 MR. GLUCKSTEIN: I am on -- I am on, Your Honor, I 16 don't anticipate in participating actively today, but Brian 17 Gluckstein, for FTX Debtors, Your Honor. 18 THE COURT: All right, thank you. Always a hazard 19 to know exactly what names to go through on this multipage 20 list that we always get before hearings of this type. 21 All right, on behalf of the United States 22 Trustee's Office? 23 MR. ZIPES: Good morning, Your Honor, Greg Zipes with the US Trustee's Office. 24 25 THE COURT: Good morning. On behalf of the

Page 12 1 Digital Currency Group. 2 MR. SAFERSTEIN: Good morning Jeffrey Saferstein from Weil, Gotshal and Manges, on behalf of Digital Currency 3 4 Group. 5 THE COURT: All right, good morning. And on 6 behalf of the Foreign Representatives of Three Arrows. 7 you also are on mute. 8 MR. GOLDBERG: Hi, can you hear us? 9 THE COURT: I can hear you now, yes. 10 MR. GOLDBERG: Good morning, Your Honor, Adam 11 Goldberg of Latham Watkins on behalf of the Foreign 12 Representatives of Three Arrows. 13 THE COURT: All right, good morning. All right. 14 MR. GOLDBERG: Your Honor, we also have Nima 15 Mohebbi on behalf of Three Arrows Capital, as well. 16 THE COURT: All right. Good morning. All right, 17 with that, I think -- I'm certainly not trying to exclude 18 anyone, but I don't want to go through the entire list. I 19 already have at least one person who didn't intend on making 20 an appearance, because they didn't intend to speak. So, is 21 there anyone else who does intend to speak at this morning's 22 hearing who would like to make an appearance at this time? 23 All right. So, good morning to you all. I know the calendar has been shifting a bit and that reflects all 24 25 the activity going on in the case, and we're happy to do

that as the needs of the case arise.

At some point, before we're finished, we should talk about scheduling, going forward just to make sure we're all on the same page and we get you what you need.

But with that, I thought I would turn it over to the Debtors to walk us through the agenda, which I believe it's at Docket 565.

MR. O'NEAL: Sure, Your Honor, Sean O'Neal, Cleary Gotlieb, on behalf of the Debtors. I think we really only have two matters on the agenda today. One is a status conference with respect to the mediation, and the second is a discovery related conference, relating to the Three Arrows Capital claims objection.

We'd like to start with the mediation status conference, if we could.

THE COURT: Please.

MR. O'NEAL: Certainly. Well, as has become a tradition in this case, perhaps not a welcome tradition, but a tradition nonetheless, it's another status conference on the mediation. At our last status conference of July 13th, we reported that we are very close to a deal in principle among certain parties.

That remains true today. We have made some progress on a variety of fronts over the past two weeks, but frankly, not the progress that we were hoping for. I will

say that the key point of progress that we have made, as has been disclosed in a letter that was filed with the Court, is that we have reached an agreement, in principle, with the FTX Debtors, concerning alleged preference claims, the Lift Stay Motion, and the Estimation Motion.

We're still papering that deal and we hope to get a 9019 Motion on file in relatively short order in the coming days.

That said, while we have made progress, we have not concluded the mediation. Technically that medication expired on July 27th and it's the -- and as July 27th turned into July 28th. Once again, all of the parties, but one, have agreed to extend the mediation period, specifically, the Debtors, the UCC, the Ad Hoc Group, and DCG, have agreed to extend the mediation period. But Gemini has not unless we agree to certain conditions.

Also, I should note that the Ad Hoc Group has agreed to extend the cleansing date provision that they had actually requested in the mediation order. They have agreed to extend that cleansing date.

Your honor will recall that at the last hearing, on the mediation, the Court extended the mediation period on its own, noting that the Court has inherent authority to order mediation. Gemini has consented to an extension of the mediation, but has attached certain conditions to that

extension, for which frankly, we did not believe that we had the authority to agree to because we view that a mediation order is your order. An order that you have entered and that you have directed us to -- to continue the mediation.

We did not feel it was our prerogative to attach conditions to Your Honor's order.

Therefore, we do request that Your Honor extend the medication period for another two weeks, to August 16th. In making this request, I want to make something clear. We are at an important point in the case. And I believe that if we do not make substantial progress with respect to a deal in principle in the next two weeks, we do not believe that we will be seeking to extend the mediation further.

We need to make substantial progress. We are very close, but at a certain point, we have to move forward. We have to move forward with the plan that we have on file, as it will be unimpeded. One of the things I should note, Your Honor, that has become apparent in this situation is that aside from the disputes involving DCG and Gemini, there are disputes among creditors; and we may be amending the plan to address those disputes, and like I said, if we don't seek -- if we don't make progress, we may just go forward with the plan as we've amended it to address those issues and other issues.

In addition, we may ask, Your Honor, for a

chambers conference, as we have discussed in the past, in order to set up a process and a timeline for resolving those intercreditor disputes.

I do believe that we are very close to a deal. I

-- I've said that before and I still believe that. And we

just need to use the next two weeks to try to get to a deal,

in principle, that can actually be documented. And if we -
if we achieve that, that's fantastic, that's what we've been

trying to achieve. If we do not, we will just go down the

road of the existing plan with the amendments that we will

propose.

So, with that, Your Honor, we appreciate your guidance and your patience throughout this process. You've always made time for us, and we greatly appreciate that.

And we respectfully request a two week extension of the mediation period. Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you for that information, and I think it makes sense to hear from Gemini, at this point, and then I can hear from any other party that wishes to be heard.

MR. FRELINGHUYSEN: Thank you, Your Honor, Anson Frelinghuysen, Hughes, Hubbard, and Reed for Gemini Trust Company on behalf of 232,000 earn users. We can certainly accept the need to be mindful of the mediation privilege and not wanting to upset that apple cart, and certainly aware

that part of the reason we're here today, (indiscernible)

over time is because Gemini continues to oppose the

extension of the mediation period.

We were close to it today, we're now very close, maybe we're very close two weeks ago, we're very close now.

I'm glad to hear Mr. O'Neal does not intend to extend the mediation period further out. We think that it's not necessary. If the deal is close, then let's all see the deal and let's have the plan benefit from the input of many others. I think it'll do better to have sunshine on that and if the deal is to be documented, let's have it documented once people are aware of what it is, and can give their inputs of the documentation process, as -- as much input as possible from everybody.

I think that if the deal is already close (indiscernible) with DCG, which was the purpose of the mediation, other matters within the deal, in the written plan and not the purpose of mediation, and to the extent that other matters of the plan are being address, they should not be protected by the mediation privilege. And there could be problems down the road if people are looking for discovery regarding whether negotiations that do not pertain to DCG, as contribution which was the purpose of the mediation.

So, we would just preview that mediation privilege

- should not be extended to those -- or it would not be necessarily extendable to those, given that they're outside the scope of the mediation. We'd like to hopefully not be back here in two week looking for another extension, and I think that's all I have for, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much.

  Anything from the Official Committee?
  - MR. SHORE: All right, hopefully this is working now, Your Honor. Chris Shore from White and Case. Nothing to add, just support the Debtor's request.
  - THE COURT: All right. And Mr. Rosen, anything from the Ad Hoc Committee?

MR. ROSEN: Yes, Your Honor, very briefly. We do support the Debtor's request. There are, just for the record, there are many conversations going on, on a daily basis between the members of our group, our steering committee, and the UCC. There are very, very delicate issues involved in these negotiations regarding distributions pursuant to a plan, and how they interact — or with all of the other issues associated with DCG, with Gemini, and some of the other settlements that the Debtor is looking to enter into.

We believe that this time is necessary to continue that process, and we believe that it should be done under the guise -- under the rubric of the mediation order, Your

Honor. Thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you. Any other party that
wishes to be heard? All right. Hearing nothing further, I - I -- I'm not, surprisingly, am going to extend the
mediation for another two weeks. I understand Mr.

Frelinghuysen's anxious and -- and concerns and wanting to
know what's going on. I'm not -- but I'm going to extend it
for the same reasons I set forth at the last hearing, I'm
not going to repeat those, you all know what those are.

But to briefly touch on one or two points, the minute things are out in the public, they take on a life of their own. We all know that from cases that we've been involved in where the very harsh light of -- well, and again, transparency is very important in bankruptcy, but in terms of trying to have settlement discussions, there's a reason that Rule 408 exists, and mediation is part and parcel of that and it's very difficult to have 408 kinds of discussions with the world in the room. It's just a practical matter.

Obviously, anything that's done in the case that needs Court approval will end up here. And I appreciate Mr. Frelinghuysen's advocacy for his clients, and all their concerns. We -- we will get there. Again, I think this is a very challenging case and there are a lot of moving pieces. And so, I'm not going to say anything extensive

about there was notion about mediation privilege and what it covers and what it doesn't cover. That's not in front of me today, but obviously, this mediation sounds like what's happening is what happens in all mediations. It's -- you're trying to solve an equation that has multiple variables, and you'll end up having discussions that are very specific, as well as discussions that are -- that are sort of quite broad in scope when trying to figure out the riddle that is the case. That's -- that's how it goes. So, that's the only comment I'd have on that.

So, again, with -- certainly an appreciation for the concerns of all the people that Mr. Frelinghuysen represents, I'm nonetheless going to extend the mediation out another couple of weeks.

What I would say, just to let you know, and I think we can talk about it in schedule, at some point, I believe that gets us to the 16th. I -- I plan on -- well, let me put it this way, there was some mention of a Chambers conference, and I'm not sure what is meant by that.

Probably you all are not sure what's meant by that at this point. But what I will say is, I believe we have time on the 18th and to the extent that somebody believes it would be helpful to have a Chambers conference, maybe that's a day to pencil in. And if people, you know, it's all designed to suit the needs of the case, and so it could be remote, it

Page 21 1 can be in person, it can be whatever is most helpful for the 2 folks who are trying to solve the issues that you have in 3 front of you. 4 The only thing I would say, obviously, is the 5 importance of having everybody who is an interested party in 6 the room, so that nobody feels excluded. And but I just 7 wanted to make -- throw that out there as -- as -- I'm open 8 to other suggestions, but I'll throw that out as a 9 possibility because it would seem to dovetail with the 10 timeline you're talking about for the purposes of today. 11 So, with that, I'll turn it back over to you, Mr. 12 O'Neal. 13 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you very much, Your Honor. The 14 18th sounds like a great idea, so we greatly appreciate your 15 indulgence on that point, in the event that we need it. 16 I think we will, obviously, submit a proposed 17 order changing the date to the 16th for the mediation 18 extension. I think with that we're ready for our next 19 agenda item, and Luke Barefoot's going to lead that one. 20 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Barefoot. MR. BAREFOOT: Good morning, Your Honor. Luke 21 22 Barefoot from Cleary Gottlieb, for the Debtors. Can you 23 hear me all right? 24 THE COURT: I can hear you just fine. Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, 25 MR. BAREFOOT:

turning to Item Number 2 on today's short agenda, it's the discovery conference with respect to the Debtor's First Omnibus Objection to the three proofs of claim filed by the liquidators of Three Arrows Capital, and that was filed at Docket Item 530.

Your Honor, in that objection, which was filed on July 19th, the Debtor's seek, in part, disallowance of the proofs of claim based on pleading deficiencies; and the absence of sufficient detail as to the nature of the claim and the facts that would support it.

Other than respond to that claims objection, the liquidators have indicated to us that they intend, instead, to amend their proofs of claim in an effort to address certain of the objections.

THE COURT: So, Mr. Barefoot, if I could -- I did read all -- all the letters I have, I guess what's at Docket 563 and 564. So, I just figured I'd mention that so you can -- you can dispense with the preliminaries.

I understand that this is a fight about sort of the chicken and egg kind of a problem, whether it's discovery or amending, and so -- so I get it, and I do have your response, which is -- which is two and a half pages, and pretty to the point, which I -- which I appreciate. So, I think you can probably pick up on that -- on that thread.

MR. BAREFOOT: Thank you, Your Honor. I'll cut

right to the chase then. Your Honor, we have -- we have no control over whether the liquidators intend to amend their claim or proceed to respond to our objection. That's their prerogative. So, we're not requiring them to amend. We're not asking the Court to require them to amend. What they're trying to do, though, is say why we want to amend, we want to compel the Debtors to first engage in all merits of discovery before we file our amendment.

As we set forth in our papers, that simply makes little sense where it would effectively give the liquidators extensive, pre-complaint discovery, without so much as a motion to engage in what would be a fishing expedition. And Your Honor, without knowing the definitive nature and extent of the claims that are at issue, it's impossible for us to have meaningful exchanges, or ask, Your Honor, to decide any disputes with respect to relevance or proportionality.

I also just want to note, Your Honor, that while you've -- you've heard voluminous ink spilled by the -- by the liquidators in their submission over the insufficiency of their own records, and the lack of information that they have. One thing that that does ignore, Your Honor is the information that was in the claims objection itself. That includes all of the definitive documentation that governed the parties loan agreements, as well as all of the communications between the parties where the terms for the

relevant transactions were agreed.

Your Honor, we also mention that as an accommodation, and really in order to avoid further delay in adjudicating the claims objection, we do intend to produce, in short order, the basic information that we think would be relevant, regardless of the -- the exact nature and scope of the amendment. And I'll just conclude on this first issue by saying none of the cases that the liquidators cite in their -- in their letter brief involve or support any entitlement to discovery as conditioned to amending a claim.

clarification. In approving what are referred to here as the sufficiency process. My -- my understanding is, we're not changing any of the regular rules of the road. We're slapping it -- a name on it, but folks have a right to file claims. Folks have a right to file objections to claims. And if a claim isn't prima facia valid, or even if it is, somebody comes forward with evidence to shift the burden, and -- and what -- what I understood the sufficiency proceedings, that pleading and that explanation, that discussion to do was to essentially put me on notice, to say Judge we may have some that are going to look a bit like a 12(b)6 motion, because we think we have some claims that fall into that category, but my understanding is -- is none of that changed the rules of the road as to what everybody's

obligations are under the law, and what the burdens are, and how to process claims objections.

MR. BAREFOOT: That's correct, Your Honor, and we -- we discussed that in some fashion at the hearing on the claims objections procedures order. I don't think, Your Honor, needs to reach today, whether a sufficiency hearing is the right vehicle for this objection, particularly given that we now know that we don't even have the definitive claim in front of us. I think everyone's rights on that are reserved, and as, Your Honor, said, and as we discussed at the claims objections procedures order, in some ways the sufficiency hearing is -- is consistent in any event with the local rules where the first hearing on a matter is in any event, unless ordered otherwise, a non-evidentiary hearing.

THE COURT: Yeah, which is designed to allow the parties to take stock and then I can provide you with my thoughts about the best ways to proceed, and you can give me your views as to whether that makes sense, or you have some other ideas, and everybody reserves all their rights under applicable law.

All right. Thank you. I appreciate it. I just - I remember we had a discussion and I think the reason we
had a discussion was to sort of flesh this out in the first
instance, and I just wanted to confirm I came away with the

23-10063-shl Doc 598 Filed 08/16/23 Entered 08/16/23 16:25:09 Main Document Pg 26 of 48 Page 26 1 right understanding. 2 Anything else, Mr. Barefoot? 3 MR. BAREFOOT: Just a -- very briefly, Your Honor, on the second issue which is whether and to what extent the 4 5 Court would now preclude the Debtors from citing to or 6 relying on the fact that there will be one amendment in the 7 event that there are theoretically three or four or five 8 amendments? THE COURT: Sure, go ahead, please. 9 10 MR. BAREFOOT: Okay. So, Your Honor, very 11 briefly, we believe it would be inappropriate and at this 12 point, amount to some sort of an advisory opinion to rule 13 that if and when the liquidators subsequently amend, that 14 the Debtor's cannot point to, or rely on that in future 15 disputes. 16 Subsequent amendments, if and when they happen, 17 should be decided if and when there are disputes, with the 18 benefit of the facts and circumstances at that time, 19

particularly where they may raise relation back issues. Debtors are not, at this point, seeking any determination on a theoretical third or fourth iteration of these claims, if we get there, and it should suffice that all parties rights and defenses are reserved to argue what may be relevant in the event of such subsequent amendments.

All right. Thank you very much.

THE COURT:

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Page 27 1 think I understand your point on that. So, let me hear from 2 the Foreign Representatives for the Estate of Three Arrows 3 Capital. 4 Oh, you are on mute. You are no longer on mute. 5 MR. GOLDBERG: Good morning, Your Honor, can you 6 hear me now? 7 THE COURT: (Indiscernible) great. MR. GOLDBERG: Okay. Thank you very much, Your 8 9 Honor, and for the record, again, Adam Goldberg of Latham 10 Watkins, on behalf of the Foreign Representatives of the 11 Three Arrows Estate. Thank you, again, for hearing us on 12 short notice and accommodating the letter raised. We're 13 here with -- on a joint request to be heard so quickly with 14 the Debtors because we do agree with them that these matters 15 should be moving forward swiftly. 16 And I'd like to acknowledge at the outset that our 17 letter was a bit longer than we typically file for a hearing 18 of this type, but it --19 THE COURT: (Indiscernible) --20 MR. FRELINGHUYSEN: -- yes, Your Honor. We did 21 feel it necessary though to express the legal argument we 22 have as it relates to -- particularly to the availability of 23 a sufficiency hearing here, because it's so important to our 24 bankruptcy case. These claims that we have against the

Genesis Estate are among the largest assets available to the

Three Arrows Estate and the Debtors are seeking to shut those claims down entirely.

THE COURT: Well, the -- but that's the merits.

They may be right, they may be wrong, we'll get to that in the fullness of time. But as to process, as I think I signaled with my question to Mr. Barefoot, my -- I'm not changing any of the rules of how things apply and how -- what the rules are for pleadings, for claims objections, for the burdens of proof, any of that. And so, my -- my -- so if you apply those general rules here, you filed the claim, as is your right. They filed an objection, as is theirs.

You can decide whether to amend or not to amend and -- and that's your choice. I -- the signal I get from the letter is that you think, hey, we probably will amend because we want to provide additional information. I think that's sensible, at least in the abstract. Again, you all know this better than I do, but that that's sensible, because it's always better to fight about specific things, than -- than kind of general what could you be arguing. And why not put your best foot forward.

And then I would think everything after that follows whatever the rules tell us in terms of T'ing issues up. So, you'll have discovery, discovery will then, as a result of an amended claim, be more focused, and that's good. And obviously, the party's relationships here are

complicated, even if -- even if focused, I'm sure discovery will be extensive.

And then if you decide to amend in the future, you decide to amend, if they decide to oppose your amendment, they decide to oppose and then I apply the rules, which are the relation back rules, and I think I have an opinion or two about that in prior cases.

So, I mean, my -- my thought is that that's the rules of the road and I don't -- they're there -- they're there for a good reason and my job is -- this job is hard enough without trying to predict the future. I don't have any -- I don't have any better talent at that than any of you all, so where we end up, we end up and everybody reserves their rights.

So, that certainly -- I throw that out there now, because that's certainly the default. Right? I'm not -- I'm not -- no one's asked me to weigh in on any of the merits of any objection. We'll get there. So, what is it that you're asking me to do that's different than some of the default rules of the road and why?

MR. GOLDBERG: Well, I think what we have here is a difference of what the default rules are. Difference of views with the Debtor. Because our perspective is that the claim objection creates a contested matter and not an adversary proceeding, and Mr. Barefoot referred to pre-

complaint discovery, essentially as how they're characterizing our efforts at discovery, but our view is that the status quo should be preserved. We're not asking, Your Honor, to change anything today. We're trying to keep the -- the rights as they are today, and our view is that the rules permit discovery.

know that the rules that when you evaluate a claim by. And if you are concerned enough about the sufficiency of your allegations in the complaint that you're advocating and have expressed freely with the other side that you're likely to amend your claim, I mean that tells us something, right?

So, it -- this is -- this lack of specificity is going to manifest itself, if not here, then in discovery. So, you're going to say well, the user rules apply, it's a contested matter, we want discovery, and the Debtors are going to say discovery is not -- how are we supposed to handle discovery if we don't really know what the claim is. And then we're going to end up back here in discovery.

So, there's a reason that, you know, notice pleading is a -- is a concept, right? It's designed to say well, we know what we're fighting about, so we know what information to exchange. There's always fights and debates on the margins. But they're not supposed to be sort of a fundamental, existential question as to exactly what it is

that you're seeking.

So, again, I don't have the merits of the claim in front of me, but -- but I think that your -- I take your point, but I think it might prove a bit too much in this context.

MR. GOLDBERG: Well, Your Honor, I think let me just respond by exactly what we're looking to preserve the status quo here on. You know, Mr. Barefoot mentioned third and fifth amendments. We're not asking the Court to prejudge anything. What we're looking for here is availability of discovery that we think is available under the bankruptcy rules and actually there's multiple alternative basis for the rules to provide for discovery here. There is a contested matter that provides the basis for discovery. There's also a Rule 2004 that applies --

THE COURT: But then you can make a 2004 --

MR. GOLDBERG: -- to this Chapter 11 case.

THE COURT: -- application. I don't have a Rule 2004 application. I thought about that when I was reading the letters. And again, it's an adversary system and I have a bunch of really smart lawyers in front of me, and you know, there's -- when I was on the other side of the bench, sometimes Judges would go around suggesting very clever ideas, seemed like Judge we've thought about that, or we had a discussion about that. So, I try to avoid doing too much

of that. But yeah, if you want to make that request, you make that request and it gets evaluated, based on whatever I have in front of me.

The problem is, I think your point proves too much. It seems to suggest, at the most extreme, that if somebody filed a one sentence claim saying I have a claim against the Debtors, period. Then that would be a contested matter and we'd have discovery. And so again, I don't have the merits of the claim in front of me, we're talking a bit more abstractly about how much sufficiency is appropriate. But -- but folks can file claims objections and say Judge, this is a waste of time to have discovery. There's no there, there, and so I think it's -- I think your instincts are right. Let's get down to brass tacks and to what we're really fighting about. Amend your claim, and then have discovery.

The rules, as I understand Rule 15 and relation back, are -- it's a fairly liberal standard. I mean, I'm not -- I'm not seeing anything that's -- I'm just -- I'm not changing the law, I'm just stating what I understand the law to be, sitting here today, having written opinions on it in the past. And so, I don't think you're giving up anything, you're just -- we're just, as you know, Bankruptcy Judges, we're very practical people. And so, we're trying to find a way to move cases forward in the most efficient way. So, --

so that again, you may have amendments, as you learn things and I understand that you're the foreign representatives, and you're not -- you have significant challenges of your own, and there's case law on -- that addresses that -- those kinds of a concerns as well.

So -- so, again, I think the regular rules of the road are -- are -- seem to be, you know, well suited to -- to protect your kinds of concerns. And it's going to end up in front of me, and you could say, Judge, remember we came here, and this is why we came here before. Now we're here again, and -- and we've done our best to move things forward and then we'll figure it out under those circumstances.

But what is it specifically you're asking me to

MR. GOLDBERG: Well, specifically well -- where we are today, is that we've agreed with the Debtors that we will file an amended complaint. We've -- and we've -- but we haven't agreed on exactly when that will be filed. What we're asking the Court today is to give us direction that we should be entitled to take discovery before an amended claim is filed. Or in the alternative, what we're asking for is that if we do file the amended claim now, that first one amendment shouldn't be held against us later.

THE COURT: I can't --

MR. GOLDBERG: We're not trying --

do?

THE COURT: -- no, no. No, no. That -- so number two is out because it changes the rules of the game. Right? It changes the rules that exist for situations like that.

If you amend -- you've -- you amend your claim, and we address it under the relation back and all the applicable rules.

As for the first, it does also change the rules, I think, but a bit more subtlety. It basically says well, we're going to file a claim, and to the extent that another side might make an objection that they can come to you with and say, you know, Judge it's -- it's -- we don't think it actually states a claim for anything, then they can't do that.

And so, I'm not saying that their -- their argument on the sufficiency of your existing claim is a winner or not. I don't have the in front of me today. But you're asking me to say that they can't make that argument, right? And so, as I said to Mr. Barefoot, the regular rules apply. So, if you have your current claim and they decide to proceed with an objection, saying that current claim is -- is not sufficient and here's what the case law says about that. And you argue it, they argue it. They may win, they may lose, but I can't in advance tell them that they can't make that. If they have the right to proceed with that argument, they have the right to proceed with that argument,

and in fact there's -- there's good reasons, and I think which is what they argued when they got those procedures approved, to say we want to be able to flesh out claims when we don't really know what they're about.

And we made it clear, at the time, that discussion doesn't change the rules of the road about how you evaluate claims objections. I have viewed it as essentially a heads up, as to what their thinking was, and so that they didn't think I was changing or that any order would be changing the rules of the road.

So, I'm not going to -- that also then -- they can proceed with their objection, and we'll have what we normally have, a non-evidentiary hearing. We'll get together and then I'll evaluate it. So, if you want to spin that wheel, that's what we'll do. It's up to you.

Based on what limited stuff I have in front of me today, which is procedural, there's a suggestion that you think geeze, we probably should amend this -- this claim.

And that that's probably what we're inclined to do.

I would say trust your instincts, because more specificity is better than less specificity, and we're all better fighting about specific identified things and getting through the merits rather than fighting about these kinds of issues. It's just more efficient, and it saves money for clients and moves the case along more smoothly.

But that said, you all know your case better than I do, so you have to make your choice. But I just -- I'm not going to remove anybody's procedural options and tell them that they can't -- they can't do that. We'll deal with I don't have it in front of me today, and maybe you would -- you would have an objection if they file a motion to expunge, and saying it's not sufficient, and you would oppose and maybe you'd win, and then you'd be off to discovery. But maybe you wouldn't win. I don't know. That's not on for today. I have no -- I don't have any wisdom that allows me to make that kind of determination sitting here today. But I -- again, the idea is I'm not changing the rules of the road. So, certainly we have our -- follow our regular procedures to deal with the motion. MR. GOLDBERG: Well look -- I understand that Your Honor and thank you for that direction. Let me address, briefly, what it is we think will move this case forward, as quickly as possible. And we do think that discovery is necessary at this stage, and that is because there's a tremendous information disparity between the parties here --THE COURT: I -- I understand that --MR. GOLDBERG: -- (indiscernible) --THE COURT: -- but you're -- you're -- but that's

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fine. That's all well and good. You had me at hello. The question is whether in making that request and seeking that discovery, you're asking for me to change the rules of the road as to -- as to amendments, or as to objections. And I -- I'm not inclined to do that, because I don't see a reason to do that. It's your claim. I understand that you -- I think I understand the challenges you have, and I appreciate those are challenges. I have no doubt that some of what you've put in your tone here will make its way into any -- any pleadings that might get filed in the near future, if we have to go down that road.

But -- but I'm not sure exactly what you're giving up if you amend the complaint -- if you amend the claim.

You're giving up the right to future amendments. I don't think you are. I think you're -- you're -- those amendments are just subject to whatever the rules are. So, I don't see you giving up anything. I see it just being governed by the rules. But so, I -- I -- that's my take, but I'm not -- I haven't seen anything in your nine page letter, and the discovery requests back and forth that are attached, that changes the calculous for me. And again, the rules are -- are developed over an extensive period of time to deal with situations like this and every other situation. So, I -- I -- again, we'll -- if we go ahead with the claim, the objection, we'll have a hearing, we'll talk about it. You

Page 38 1 may win, you may lose, I don't know. But -- but that's sort 2 of the regular way we'd handle it. 3 MR. GOLDBERG: Well, I think just to play it out how I expect it to unfold in that process, Your Honor, and 4 5 why we still think discovery should be taken now, before an 6 amended complaint, is that --7 THE COURT: But -- but it's your choice --8 MR. GOLDBERG: -- (indiscernible) -- once the --9 THE COURT: -- counsel. It's your choice. It's 10 your claim. It's your choice. It's not my choice and I'm 11 not changing the rules for you under these circumstances. 12 -- again, I'm not clear that I have the ability to change 13 the rules or why I would change the rules. Again, I 14 understand you think discovery is appropriate, and that's 15 fine. We'll get to discovery. But under what claim, it's 16 up to you. 17 MR. GOLDBERG: Very well, Your Honor. I think 18 though that the Debtors have changed the rules, but they 19 agreed to get through the --20 THE COURT: I -- I don't agree. 21 MR. GOLDBERG: -- claim procedures order --22 THE COURT: I understand that's your 23 characterization, but for the reasons I already discussed, I 24 think you're asking -- you're asking me to change the rules 25 to say that I get a free amendment. I -- I mean, I don't

want to be too snarky about this, but tell me where in the rules it says you get a free amendment. You don't. And so, you're subject to the regular rules.

I understand you're dealing with it in information deficit. I get it. I understand that and we cite -- people cite those kinds of rules and the case law about trustees walking into these situations and the information deficit all the time. And that -- that will play itself out based on every -- whatever it is that we end up litigating in the fullness of time.

But I'm not preemptively changing the rules about claims objections. And I don't think the sufficiency hearing, which in a way, now I'm regretting giving you in its own separate name, which sounds like it's different than the rules. It'll be a claim objection hearing. We'll -- we'll -- there -- that's the way it works in every case I have, somebody files a claim, somebody files an objection. We have a non-evidentiary hearing, and we get together, and we see what's what.

And at that point, Mr. Barefoot will say we think the claim should be -- should be expunged right now, Your Honor, based on applicable law. And you'll say, Judge, we don't think that's the case and we think that there should be discovery.

That's how it will play itself out. That's how it

plays itself out in many cases that are much smaller than this one.

MR. GOLDBERG: Thank you, Your Honor, we appreciate your direction.

I think I understand the challenges that you have, and I appreciate them, and so I do think your instincts to amend the claim, based on what you have, information you have is - is -- is probably the right one. Again, you have to make that call. You're closer to it than I am. You have the information, I don't. But based on what I saw in your -- in your letter, that seems to be where you'd like to go, but you're nervous about it. I understand that, but it -- it sounds like that's probably the right way to go so we can actually get the parties to join on -- on the merits of the actual claim itself.

But with that, I'll leave that to your considered professional judgement to assess -- I do appreciate the briefings, I have -- it gave me very good window into your thinking, and your challenges, and so I expect all that will -- will -- I will keep this in my stack of Genisis materials, because I expect it may be helpful in the future.

MR. GOLDBERG: Thank you, Your Honor. And just to be clear, I mean I think the process as we envision it is, there may -- there may have to be further amendments of the

claim after this round, if and when we learn more facts, and we'll have to take into (indiscernible) --

THE COURT: Well, I -- I understand that, and we'll see, again, I -- I sometimes feel like I should have a magic eight ball here on the bench, because sometimes people are asking for those kinds of predictions, and frankly the magic eight ball is probably as best as I could do, because I have learned in this job, that my predictions aren't any better than anyone else's.

So, I appreciate it -- we'll -- we'll get there.

We'll get there. And this is complicated. This case is

complicated. And all the relationship between the Debtors

and counterparties, complicated particularly where those

entities have their own proceedings. And we've already had

extended -- spent some extended time talking about the

Debtor's relationship with FTX, and now we're talking about

Three Arrows. And we'll -- we'll get there. So, but thank

you for your presentation today, and for the letter, and

we'll -- we'll see how it goes.

What I would say is we can talk about procedure.

At some point, I imagine that you all want to have a discussion about what you want to do, and then you'll reach out to the Debtors and figure out what you want to do and then you can reach out to Chambers and let us know what time, if any, that you need the -- in the near future, and

we'll get you what you need.

MR. GOLDBERG: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

MR. BAREFOOT: And, Your Honor, just -- just briefly, for the record, I think this is agreed between the joint liquidators and the Debtors, to the extent that the joint liquidators decide to amend their claim rather than proceed with litigation and discovery on the existing claim. They have agreed, and we've accepted that August 14th would be the date for that.

THE COURT: All right. All right. That -- that's fine. I'll -- otherwise I'll leave you to it in terms of trying to figure out the best way forward because the Court's -- it's very important for us to leverage the wisdom and professionalism the good lawyers that appear in front of us, so I'll get out of the way.

All right. That's probably a good segway to scheduling. And so, Mr. Barefoot, I want to make sure that we're all on the same page. And if you wanted to start, or I could start my -- well, maybe I'll start, just to say I understand that we had a date on the 15th to deal with, among other things, estimation that that's not -- not a -- well, I'm not sure maybe Mr. Barefoot or maybe Mr. O'Neal, it might be both, and that's all fine. That the 15th is -- is not going forward at this time. We have the 18th

for a disclosure statement hearing and any potential Chambers conference. And we have September 6th for fee applications. I think the 24th of August was originally held for confirmation, and I will tell you, without confirmation my -- my intent is to not have a calendar on the 24th. I will confess to trying to sneak off to the Adirondacks for some period of time.

I will say that to the extent that it would be helpful to have a status conference that would be beneficial for anybody towards the end of August, even if I'm away, we can figure that out, but my intent is to try to avoid substantive hearings on issues during that time. So, -- so I have then basically the 18th and the 6th. I would imagine we'll have a -- sort of a status as we always do on the 18th to talk about what's coming up next and that -- and at that point, if someone says, geeze it would be helpful to have some kind of a status conference between now and -- and Labor Day, I'm open in that suggestion, and we can talk about it then.

But that's my understanding of the schedule, and so Mr. O'Neal or Mr. Barefoot, or both, any -- any thoughts?

I want to make sure I've got it right.

MR. O'NEAL: Your Honor, it's Sean O'Neal. I would add to that chorus, Ms. Vanlare, I believe that you have the dates. I think it's the 18th for the disclosure

Page 44 1 statement and the potential Chambers conference. I think we 2 actually had discussed it with Chambers yesterday, the 18th and hadn't quite gotten it yet. So, that's --3 THE COURT: Yes --4 5 MR. O'NEAL: -- that would well --6 THE COURT: -- you -- you were good to go on the 7 18th. 8 MR. O'NEAL: Yeah, that will work well for us, and 9 then the 6th is the fee app, and I think we are also have an 10 exclusivity motion that we'll be filing, and we'll probably 11 schedule that for the 6th as well, Your Honor. 12 THE COURT: All right. All right, and you'll just 13 let me know as, you know, as things unfold, what -- what 14 else you might need, and again, sometimes the status 15 conference might be helpful. We have already made reference 16 to the potential having -- the idea of having a Chambers 17 conference and I'll -- will approve that on the 18th. 18 All right. Thank you for that. I appreciate it, because I want to make sure we're on the same page and you 19 20 have a lot of things going on, as I think our argument 21 discussion just now was a very good illustration of that. 22 So, all right. So, Mr. O'Neal, anything else that we should 23 24 address here this morning? 25 MR. O'NEAL: I think -- yeah, Your Honor, I think

the only thing is the FTX settlement motion. I think we're targeting the 6th for that, but there's a fair amount of, you know, there's a discussion with the FTX Debtors on that point, but that is what we're targeting.

THE COURT: Um-hum

MR. O'NEAL: But if that -- if that date is -- you know, if we have to go for a different date, I think we would reach out to your Chambers, understanding that the -- the last part of August is not really available.

THE COURT: All right. Yeah, that's fine. Thank you for the heads up on that. I certainly won't hold you to it, it sounds like that's somewhat of a fluid situation, but it's always helpful to get the heads up. I put things in my own calendar in pencil, and have several erasers scattered all over Chambers. So, -- so, that's fine.

All right, with that, is there anything else from any other party that we should address here this morning?

MR. ZIPES: Your Honor, it's Greg Zipes, with the US Trustee's office. I don't think I was aware that the disclosure statement hearing has been moved. That was actually a point that I was going to raise. I -- as far as I knew the hearing was on August 11th, so I appreciate that that's been adjourned a week. That was -- that was one point I was going to ask about.

Your honor, the disclosure statement that's been

filed and as amended, probably is somewhat out of date, especially given the FTX settlement or the hope for a settlement. And there are various issues that my office is -- is focused on. It is a bit of a moving target for us, and we -- we just want to raise that that's an issue.

There's an objection deadline, which I assume is not being extended out. That's what my concerns is that our deadline is coming up as of Thursday or Friday. So, I assume that's being extended out another week. There's an SEC and objection that's been filed that has some points that my office would be concerned about, and it would be helpful to know, what if anything has been resolved in that regard.

And Your Honor, I just wanted to raise that as -- as a point that my office is focused on.

THE COURT: All right. That's fair enough. So, Mr. O'Neal, any -- any wisdom to offer?

MR. O'NEAL: I think Mr. Zipes, everything that he said sounds accurate to me. We'll reach out to him, but yes, the disclosure statement objection deadline will be moved by the week, commensurate with the extension or the adjournment of the -- of the hearing and we'll gladly discuss with Mr. Zipes any concerns that he may have with respect to the disclosure statement.

THE COURT: All right. And -- and I understand

that this case is, as sometimes happens in large cases with a lot going on, that there's a desire to -- to move things out in incremental fashion to keep the pressure on and to keep the case moving, and so that's one of the reasons we've been using Friday, so that it doesn't do too much violence to the other customers who appear on calendars, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. And we'll -- we'll figure out as we go along and my only request in that is, as the Debtors figure out the timing of things, just to let us know as soon as possible so that everybody knows, and the moving from the 11th to the 18th, was very much breaking news. So, we just had that discussion. So, that's, I believe it's state of the art. So, I appreciate keeping everybody in the loop, and given today's date, we're talking about things the 11th -- the 18th that's really consistent with keeping everybody informed before they have to make decisions or take certain actions. So, I appreciate that, and with that, anything else from any other party? All right. Thank you very much. I appreciate all of the information. Good luck in your continued discussions and I'll see you later this month. Be well. MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Your Honor. (Whereupon these proceedings were concluded.)

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Page 48 1 CERTIFICATION 2 3 I, Sonya Ledanski Hyde, certified that the foregoing 4 transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. 5 Songa M. deslarski Hydl 6 7 8 Sonya Ledanski Hyde 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 Veritext Legal Solutions 21 330 Old Country Road 22 Suite 300 23 Mineola, NY 11501 24 25 Date: August 15, 2023